

Please amend the Abstract on page 12 as follows:

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

~~Integrated variable optical attenuator and isolator,~~
~~components therefor and method of assembly~~

An integrated variable optical attenuator and isolator assembly includes:
a variable optical attenuator including a polarisation rotation medium ~~(504)~~,
an optical isolator including an optical rotator ~~(208)~~,
and
a polariser ~~(506)~~ interposed between the polarisation rotation medium ~~(504)~~ and the optical rotator (208),
whereby said polariser ~~(506)~~ is common to both the variable optical attenuator and the optical isolator.
~~(Figure 6)~~